

Mediation Education Class: Parties in divorce or separation cases with no minor children together are required to attend only the Mediation Education Class before going to mediation. The Mediation Education Class can be taken online (at mediateiowa.org, more information below) or in person (as the first half hour of the Parenting Classes - schedule and locations are listed below.)

Parenting Class: Parties in divorce or custody cases who have minor children together are required to take the Parenting Class and the Mediation Education Class. These classes are offered at the same time. Classes, schedule and locations are listed below.

- The **Parenting Class** tells you about children and divorce and about children's needs at different ages, to help you make decisions in your children's best interest.
- The **Mediation Education Class** explains mediation and how to prepare.

Class for Minor Children in Linn and Johnson Counties: Please see information below.

Parenting Class: More Information

- **Who is required to attend:** People who have one or more minor children (under 18) involved in their legal case.
- **Do you need to attend together?** No.
- **What you'll learn:**
 - the needs of children of separated parents at different ages;
 - parenting skills for divorced or separated parents;
 - the financial responsibilities of parents following divorce; and
 - how to prepare for mediation.
- **Time:** 4 or 4 1/2 hours, depending on the provider.
- **When:** Within 45 days of the date the petition was filed and before mediation.
- **Where:** At one of the locations below. You only attend ONE class.
- **Cost:** \$60 per person. One fee covers both required classes. Plan to arrive 15 minutes early so you can pay before the class starts.
- **Requirements for reduced fee:** If you can provide proof of income by showing your Food Stamps, SSI or Title XIX card or if you can provide proof that your attorney is not charging you for services, you are eligible for a reduced class fee of \$20. Otherwise, you pay the full fee of \$60. This policy took effect February 1, 2014.
- **How to Register:** Look at the schedule below and decide which time and location works best for you. To register: Go online or call the number listed below. Leave a voice message with the information they ask for.
NOTE: Some agencies will NOT call you back to confirm.

Class Locations For Parenting Class + Mediation Education Class

Anamosa

Life Connections – Melissa Paulsen

209 West Main Street

Some Saturdays from 10:00am – 2:00pm

To find out class dates or to register contact Melissa Paulsen by calling 319.480.5387 or by [email](#).

Cedar Rapids

St. Luke's Hospital, Resource Center

225 12th St. NE, First floor, Formal Lounge

1st Tuesday of month, 5:30pm – 10:00pm

3rd Tuesday of month, 8:00am – 12:30pm

To register call: 319-369-8109 or [register online by clicking here](#). Must register by Friday before the Tuesday class.

Four Oaks

5400 Kirkwood Blvd. SW

2nd Saturday of month, 9:00am – 1:30pm

4th Wednesday of month, 5:30pm – 10:00pm

To register or for financial aid call 1-800-261-5097 or go online to www.family-development.org.

Iowa City

Youth Homes

1916 Waterfront Dr.

2nd Wednesday of month, 5:00pm – 9:30pm

4th Thursday of month, 9:00am – 1:30pm

To register or for financial aid call: 1-800-261-5097 or go online to www.family-development.org.

Marion

Marion High School

675 S. 15th St.

2nd Monday of every month, 5:00pm – 9:00pm

To register or for financial aid call: 1-877-665-2120 or go online to www.parenting-solutions.org.

North Liberty

North Liberty Community Center

520 W. Cherry St.,

1st Wednesday of month, 9:00am – 1:00pm

3rd Saturday of month, 9:00am – 1:00pm

To register or for financial aid call: 1-877-665-2120 or go online to www.parenting-solutions.org.

Vinton

Virginia Gay Hospital

502 N. 9th Ave.

4th Wednesday of month, 9:00am – 1:30pm

To register or for financial aid call: 1-800-261-5097 or go online to www.family-development.org.

Williamsburg

Williamsburg Junior/Senior High School

810 Walnut St., 3rd Tuesday of month, 5:00pm – 9:00pm

To register or for financial aid call: 1-877-665-2120 or go online to www.parenting-solutions.org.

The Mediation Education Class is required for all divorcing parties.

More Information:

- **Who is required to attend:** Both parties are required to attend this class before going to mediation.
- **Do you need to attend class together?** No.
- **What the class is for:** To help you prepare for mediation.
- **How long does it take:** One half hour
- **When the class must be completed:** Before mediation and within 45 days of the date the petition was filed.

The Mediation Education Class is available online or in person.

Mediation Education Class - Online

- **When:** At your convenience. The class takes a half hour, plus registration/set-up.
- **Cost:** \$20 per person paid online using a credit card. You will receive proof of payment via email.
- **Financial aid:** Not available for the online class.
- **Before you begin:** You will need
 - a valid email address,
 - access to a computer that has internet access, the ability to stream online video, and a copy of Adobe Flash Player version 10 or higher,
 - a credit/debit card to securely pay the registration fee online.
- **Proof of completion:** Automatically emailed to the Clerk of Court in county where the case was filed.
- **How to Register:** Go to mediateiowa.org to register and take the class or for more information

Mediation Education Class - In-Person

- **When/where:** Times and locations listed below.
- **Cost:** \$20 per person. The fee must be paid before the class starts. Please plan to arrive 15 minutes early to allow time for payment processing.
- **Financial Aid:** If you can provide proof of income by showing your Food Stamps, SSI or Title XIX card or if you can provide proof that your attorney is not charging you for services, you are eligible for a reduced class fee of \$5. Otherwise you pay the full fee. This policy took effect February 1, 2014. The reduced fee option is not available for the online class.
- **Proof of completion:** Provided at the end of the class.
- **How to Register:** Call the number listed (or visit the website) for the location you want to attend (see below) and leave a voice message with the requested information. NOTE: You may NOT receive a call back to confirm your registration.

Mediation Education Class Locations

Anamosa

Life Connections – Melissa Paulsen

209 West Main Street

Saturdays, 10:00am – 10:30am

To register contact Melissa Paulsen by calling 319.480.5387 or by [email](#).

Cedar Rapids

St. Luke's Hospital, Resource Center

225 12th St. NE, First floor, Formal Lounge

1st Tuesday of month, 5:30pm – 6:00pm

3rd Tuesday of month, 8:00am – 8:30am

To register call: 319-369-8109 or [register online by clicking here](#). Must register by Friday before the Tuesday class.

Four Oaks

5400 Kirkwood Blvd. SW

2nd Saturday of month, 9:00am – 9:30am

4th Wednesday of month, 5:30pm – 6:00pm

To register or for financial aid call 1-800-261-5097 or go online to www.family-development.org.

Iowa City

Youth Homes

1916 Waterfront Dr.

2nd Wednesday of month, 5:00pm – 5:30pm

4th Thursday of month, 9:00am – 9:30am

To register or for financial aid call: 1-800-261-5097 or go online to www.family-development.org.

North Liberty

North Liberty Community Center

520 W. Cherry St.,

1st Wednesday of month, 9:00am – 9:30am

3rd Saturday of month, 9:00am – 9:30am

To register or for financial aid call: 1-877-665-2120 or go online to www.parenting-solutions.org.

Vinton

Virginia Gay Hospital

502 N. 9th Ave.

4th Wednesday of month, 9:00am – 9:30am

To register or for financial aid call: 1-800-261-5097 or go online to www.family-development.org.

Williamsburg

Williamsburg Junior/Senior High School

810 Walnut St., 3rd Tuesday of month, 5:00pm – 5:30pm

To register or for financial aid call: 1-877-665-2120 or go online to www.parenting-solutions.org.

Class for Minor Children in Linn and Johnson Counties

All children of the marriage/relationship who are between the ages of 6 and 16 shall attend a 2.5 hour educational workshop presented by Kids First Law Center.

Registration should be completed within two weeks of the date of the court Order by visiting

<http://www.kidsfirstiowa.org/for-kids/workshops>. Attendance at this class shall be completed within 45 days of the date of this Order. Workshops are held in Linn and Johnson County.

Questions can be directed to Kids First by phone at 319-365-5437 or by [email](#) presented by Kids First Law Center.